

**b.) Amendments to the Specification.**

Please amend the specification as follows:

In the Abstract, please amend the paragraph as follows:

~~The invention relates to a device~~ A fastening device is disclosed comprising at least a pair of hard hooks, each containing a gripping portion and a hacking portion, connected by a stretchable cord, preferably a bungee cord. The device is useful for easily and securely fastening a ladder or other lengthy equipment to a vehicle.

In the Specification, please insert after Paragraph [0016], the following:

-- Figure 5 shows a lighter weight embodiment of the invention. --